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MEXICO

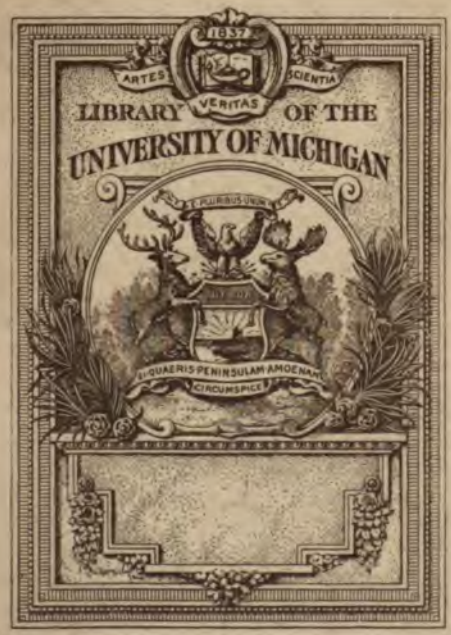
YESTERDAY
&
TO-DAY

1876-1904

ENGLISH EDITION

México - 1904

Bernardo Matten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MEXICO

YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY

1876–1901

Bernardo Mallen

MEXICO

YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY

1876-1904

ENGLISH EDITION

Mexico - 1904

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Bernardo Mallen

MEXICO

YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY

1876-1904

ENGLISH EDITION

Mexico - 1904

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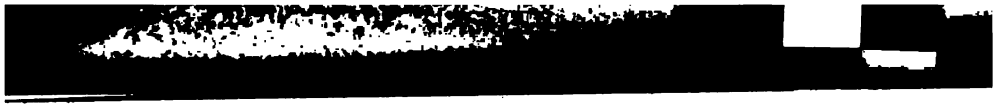

Plan and Purpose of this Book.

To present in the smallest space possible a collection of statistical data, which will be sufficient to show at a glance everything that has been done in Mexico during the last 28 years, is the purpose we have had before us in compiling this book, which we respectfully place in the hands of those who have come from the farthest ends of the earth, to contribute with their presence to this magnificent festival of human genius. The history of that brilliant period during which Mexico has held the attention of the world, through the unexpected and intrepid way with which she commenced a life of modern civilization in the year 1876, will be found condensed in these few pages, which have been published for business men who judge of the prosperity and future of a country by the figures given in the statistics, and for those observing and serious persons who follow, with a philosophical interest, the evolution of humanity in its course through the centuries.

There can be no doubt that a universally favorable opinion of Mexico has arisen since the period when she definitely entered into the ranks of that group of nations which form the advance guard of progress; but it is only a few persons who have even an approximate knowledge of the gigantic efforts which she has made to place herself, within the space of only a few years, in the high position that she now occupies among the Spanish-American Republics. From isolated data and from the information contained in the Daily Press, it is known that she has progressed and is still progressing with extraordinary rapidity; but does anybody know the details of this immense labor or the importance of the public works that have been undertaken of which some are terminated and others commenced, but all worthy of the standing of a Nation that prides itself on its progressive and civilized character? Certainly not; and it is with the object of satisfying this desire for information which Mexico is interested

in satisfying, that these pages are published in the most universally spoken languages, in order to facilitate their perusal by the greatest possible number of persons who are interested in knowing the situation of a country, that today offers an open field for all honest ability and work.

The plan that we have adopted to give an extensive, if not a complete, idea of the present flourishing condition of the country, could not be simpler.

We have consulted the statistics of the years 1876 and 1904, which mark the period of absolute peace which the Republic has enjoyed; we have formed a comparative table of what existed and of what had been done up to 1876 and of what exists and has been done from that time to 1904. From a comparison of the figures relating to the two periods, we reach the necessary and logical deduction which proves the magnitude of the progress realized and the rapidity with which the country advances towards a prosperity that formerly was never known in its history and perhaps has no precedent in human annals, if we bear in mind the formidable obstacles that had to be overcome and which had their foundations in three centuries of colonial government, in order to raise on them the grand edifice of the Republic.

As from the year 1810, when Mexico emancipated herself from the Crown of Spain until 1876, Civil Wars never allowed the ephemeral governments of that period any opportunity to organize a statistical service, to which civilized nations attach so much importance, considering it, with good reason, an absolutely indispensable element to give a knowledge of the true economic condition and development of the public wealth, it has been impossible for us to acquire all the data corresponding to the year 1876; whilst others have been obtained in an incomplete form and some we have found it necessary to take from subsequent years, when offices had been created that were exclusively dedicated to statistical work. In setting forth these data in the comparative synopsis, which the reader, interested in knowing what Mexico was and what she is to day, will find in these pages, and so may see the sudden transformation that is taking place in its political, social, and economic existence, we will take care to give due attention to showing which are the exact data and which are only approximate, as well as those points on which we can find no information up to 1876. For the exact data we will

employ this sign ***, for the approximate date this **, and for those on which none can be found we will use this *. With respect to the recent data, we will give the year to which they pertain.

The facts relative to railroads, telegraph lines, postal service, revenues of the Federal Government and of the States, Imports and Exports, as well as other points that are of substantial interest and which enable the reader to appreciate the change and development which the Republic is achieving, are, nevertheless, absolutely exact in both periods.

As the dominant idea in publishing these notes has been to illustrate, in a general and concrete manner, the great progress that Mexico has attained, during its period of evolution, in all branches of human activity, as well as the enormous difference between the revolutionary Mexico of 1876 and the Mexico occupied with peaceful pursuits of 1904, we believe that the figures which we present, all derived from official sources and therefore perfectly authentic, will realize the object which we have had in view.

A column of figures is much more useful and eloquent than a voluminous book even if written in the most brilliant style.

Mexico has abandoned the barren field of illusions and utopias and has entered on the practical paths of order and progress, that render nations great and strong. Following the current of those ideas by which the country feels itself impelled to go forward, we have considered that the most useful and adequate means to the end which we set before ourselves was to illustrate its advances, its economic state and its resources, by means of statistical figures, whose logic is inflexible and which are advantageous to men of business and to serious and inquiring students, for whom this work is principally intended.

At the same time, it is of importance to know under what conditions Mexico has reached such a wonderful advancement, and we will therefore give a brief sketch of its situation in the year 1876.

We may say that the first two-thirds of the last century were passed in incessant war and that the horrors of a terrific civil strife desolated our soil and inundated it with blood. Tired as was the

country of the prolonged struggle and of experimenting with every system of government, from the most absolute despotism to an ideal republic, the day arrived when public opinion resolutely declared itself in favor of putting an end to that state of affairs.

The country felt the necessity of securing tranquillity and of making a radical change in the policy that up to then had been observed; the Nation was anxious to enjoy peace, order, morality, progress and civilization; the conviction had been reached that it was necessary to establish a stable, government which would practically apply the laws and enforce the principle of authority, which with a firm hand would repress passions and control the parties which sought the gratification of their rival ambitions. As happens in all great convulsions of human organisms, the crisis had to come some time, and eventually it did arrive, when in 1876 the last political movement was consummated, forever closing in Mexico the long list of revolutions, that for 66 years had dyed its soil with blood.

That movement was not barren of results, nor were the hopes of the Nation defrauded; but what was the condition of the country at the time when this new period of its existence was inaugurated?

The most complete ruin, an entire contempt for the law, the public highways controlled by outlaws, the principle of authority ignored, the public treasury depleted, the Nation without credit for a single penny; such was the chaotic condition which the cyclone of revolution had left in its wake, and it was under those difficult and painful circumstances that Mexico courageously undertook the crusade of civilization that has raised her in the opinion of the world and has earned for her so much applause and good-will.

The Nation still found itself possessed of sufficient energy and vigor, in its young and vigorous organism, not only to attend to its immediate necessities by introducing order in all branches of public administration and by promptly removing all obstacles to the development and exploitation of the numerous sources of wealth with which the country abounds, but with a full comprehension of its position in the American continent and the role which it is called to fill by reason of its geographical situation, that places it in the most direct line between the distant countries of the East and

Vest, like a great bridge which nature has built on its road, it is preparing itself to fill, without esitancy, the part that falls to its share in the universal work of progress. The Isthmus of Tehuantepec and the Port of Manzanillo are the points that are destined to receive all the traffic that in the uture will be developed, on an enormous and colossal scale, between those countries that are inhabited by the largest portions of the human species; and it is to those points that the Government has levoted its attention and commenced works of great importance properly to handle this traffic. Salina Cruz, on the Pacific Coast, is being transformed into a first class port, whilst Coatzacoalcos on he Atlantic coast, will give access to vessels of deep draught. Iron wharves and warehouses are being constructed in both ports of a capacity commensurate with the enormous trade that will be carried over the Isthmus, and a double railroad track will furnish transportation for merchandise and passengers between the two oceans. As may be seen from the synopsis of comparative statistics which ve present further on, the expenses which up to the 30th of June, 1903, had been incurred in the construction of the harbor works and Railroad on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, amount to $60,625,550.66, nd the improvement and sanitation of the port of Manzanillo had cost up to the same date, $3,628,-62.42. By the time these works are completed they will have cost the Nation about One Hundred Millions of dollars.

The Mexican Central Railroad, which connects the principal commercial centres of the United States with the most important cities of Mexico, is rapidly laying its tracks in the direction of Manzaillo. Within a short time, interoceanic communication across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and across he country's northern section by way of the Port of Manzanillo, will be established and the world vill applaud this fresh step taken by Mexico in the glorious task of progress that has simultaneously been undertaken by all civilized nations and in which she makes every effort duly to sustain her hare. Notwithstanding the opening of the Panamá Canal, a work that is demanded by the civilization nd advancement of humanity, the Isthmus of Tehuantepec will always afford the most rapid and direct route between the countries of Asia and the United States, Canada and western Europe.

Panamá and Colon, the two terminals of the Canal, are situated about 1,200 miles to the south

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ernment, as well as the interest for the current year on the so-called "Pious Fund of California" which amounted to $43,050.99); in its capital it convened the first American Congress of Arbitration in the year 1901, co-operating in the work of strengthening the sentiment of universal brotherhood; it pacified, and brought into subjection to the law, the savage tribes in the Yaqui country and the Mayas, who in Sonora and Yucatan had resisted all attempts at civilization ever since the time of the Conquest; it has subsidized railroad companies with $144,891,743.92; expends on public works and improvements of all kinds hundred of millions of dollars and still is able to accumulate in its Treasury, a surplus of $30,917,618.35 in gold and silver, calculating the gold at par.

So great a prosperity realized in such a short period as twenty-eight years, a brief space in the life of a Nation, is a revelation, as unexpected as it is surprising, of the immense resources of this country.

The City of Mexico has, from pre-historic times, been exposed to frequent inundations, and its climate, which ought to be one of the healthiest in the world, became a constant danger to its inhabitants. Inundations and consequent unhealthy conditions, prevented the extension that is natural to the capital of a country advancing so rapidly along the path of progress, and this being realized by the Federal Government, it undertook to carry out the gigantic work, which had been commenced and abandoned by the Aztec Emperors and later on by the Spanish Viceroys, of furnishing an outlet for the enormous quantity of water that collected in the basins of the great lakes of the beautiful valley in which the rich and historical city is situated. This daring and colossal undertaking was carried out with great success, and its execution demanded a sum of $15,967,000.—This work was hardly completed when a commencement was made on the drainage and sanitation works of the city, in which a sum of $5,714,982.75 has been expended, and the immediate consequence has been the embellishment and general improvement of the city.

The streets and sidewalks of the city were paved with sheet asphalt and up to the present *date, 344,442 square metres of the two have* been completed, at a cost of $2,983,636.31.

The antiquated buildings that were dedicated to the use of the Government offices have been re-modeled and converted into real palaces of modern style, whilst many new ones have been erected in the best style of architecture, worthy of the fame that in the history of the new world is enjoyed by the Imperial City of the Moctezumas.

The amounts invested in the construction or remodeling of these palaces will give the reader an idea of their importance, and we will satisfy his curiosity by presenting the figures.

Department of Foreign Affairs	$ 300,000.00
Department of Justice	445,000.00
Civil Law Courts	229,000.00
Criminal Law Courts	167,287.85
Hall for Jury Trials, Morgue etc	102,157.00
Normal School for Professors	300,231.60
Custom House at Santiago	617,091.90
Astronomical Observatory at Tacubaya	300,000.00
Geological Institute	300,000.00
New Post Office under construction. (up to this date)	1.500,000.00
City Penitentiary	2.396,914.84
New Asylum for the poor under construction (up to this date)	557,725.56
General Hospital under construction (to this date)	2.087.834.79
Repairs to National Palace	3.861,760.18
Repairs to National Library	630,000.00
National Medical Institute	360,000.00
Office of Weights & Measures, Parasitology	300,000.00
Printing Office of the Department of Fomento	300,000.00

Other great buildings and monuments are now under construction, and among them the most sumptuous will be the Legislative Palace, a large theatre, the National Pantheon, in which the ashes of the great men of Mexico will be deposited, and the Monument intended to perpetuate the memory of the heroes of our Independence, all of which works are estimated at the sum of $30,000,000.

Squares, markets, gardens, parks, and handsome private residences can be seen by the tourist in whatever direction he goes whilst the magnificent drive called "La Reforma," is worthy of any of the great capitals of the world, stretching from the city until it terminates at the foot of the celebrated Castle of Chapultepec that has successively been the favorite residence of Emperors, Viceroys and Presidents.

The city has been supplied with all the improvements and modern conveniences that are found in the most cultured capitals, and it is unquestionably one of the most beautiful and agreeable cities of the Continent. Its delicious climate, a climate of eternal spring, will convert it into an American Nice, one of those enchanting regions, that under warm southern skies, rise smiling and poetic, the winter resort of millionaires who year after year flock thither from the frozen regions of Northern Europe.

The City of Mexico is situated at an elevation of 2,260 metres above sea level and has an average temperature of 17° 1' C. in summer and 12° 7' C in winter. Its present population is estimated at 400,000 inhabitants and all languages of the world are spoken within its boundaries.

Five great railroad lines connect this city with New-Orleans, St. Louis, Missouri, Chicago, New York, and all the cities of the east, west and north of the American Union and Canada, the trip to those cities occupying approximately four and one-half days.

From Havre, Marseilles, Liverpool, Genoa and Hamburg, the transatlantic steamers in nine days reach the port of Veracruz, which has been transformed into a handsome and extensive harbor *at a cost of $33.568.127.62.* From Veracruz to the Mexican Nice, a railroad that enjoys universal *fame as a wonder; both on account of* the technical merit of its construction, as well as on account of *the magnificent scenery which it traverses* from the burning coast of the Gulf up to the regions of

snow, transports the traveller in a ten hours trip, that leaves a profound and pleasing impression on his imagination.

A comparison of the figures given in the statistical table shows that the country has made uniform progress in every direction, and that uniform attention has been given to all public requirements and services. The extraordinary development that has taken place in some of these, such as the postal, telegraph and railroad services, will give an exact idea of the remarkable prosperity which the country has attained.

Postal Service. ***

For example, we find that in the year 1876, the post office had an interior movement of 4,433,-715 pieces against 121,138,573 in 1903; that the international postal traffic amounted to 276,035 pieces in 1876 against 45,480,469 in 1903.

The Parcels Post was established in 1894, and in that year had an interior movement of 24,142 packages against 251,556 in 1903. Packages handled in the foreign service totalled 29,070 in 1894 against 211,044 in 1903.

The money order system was another reform introduced in 1894 and later on improved in 1899. Internal money orders issued in 1894 amounted to $101,732.90 while in 1903 they amounted to $41,-811,848.83. The money orders issued by Mexican offices on those of the United States in 1899, amounted to $138,314.99, against $479,196.38 in 1903. Money orders issued by American post-offices on those of Mexico in 1899 had a value of $39,146.17 against $450,699.18 in 1903. The post-offices existing in 1876 were 820, and increased to 2,301 in 1903. The number of post-office employees in 1876 was 1,183, and 10,477 in 1903. The post-office revenues in 1876, amounted to $456,130.04, against $2,714,942.-54 in 1903.

From the month of July of this year, a money order service, similar to that existing with the

United States since the year 1899, has been arranged between Mexico and Great Britain with her lonies, including Canada. Under the Treaty arranged for this purpose between the two governme the Mexican post-offices can issue orders up to £10 against all post-offices of that Nation and its tensive colonies, and *vice versa*, the Mexican post-offices will accept money orders up to $100, silv issued by the British post-offices.

Mexico has reduced many of her taxes, and especially those that ought properly to be conside as public services and not as sources of revenue for the Nation, and which tend to develop comm cial transactions, among which we may unquestionably include the postal service. In 1876, an ord ary letter paid 25 cents silver for internal postage, whilst today it is only charged five cents silv Letters to the United States and Canada are also charged five cents postage in silver, and ten ce to all other countries in the world. The Republic forms part of the Universal PostalUnion.

Land & Sub-Marine Telegraphs. ***

With regard to the land and sub-marine telegraph service we have no less important data:

	1876.	1903.
Kilometers of Federal Government Telegraph lines	7,136	50,324
„ „ State „ „ „	1,310	5,212
„ „ Private Telegraph lines	1,205	3,113
„ „ Federal Government Telephone lines	....	336
„ „ State „ „ „	....	16,142
„ „ Private Companies „ „	10	21,122

We only have data as to the cost of the Federal Government telegraphs, which amounts $5,040,076, as we *have been* unable to obtain any data with regard to other lines. The above sum d not cover the value of the instruments, furniture etc. of the offices.

The business done in the Federal Government Telegraph offices was as follows: Telegraph messages transmitted to the interior from December, 1876, to November, 1877, numbered 40,203 against 3,176,566 in 1903; the international messages were 160,219 in 1903, but this service did not exist in 1876.

The telegraph money orders gave the following results: Value of orders issued on the interior in 1903 (in 1876 the service did not exist) $3,160,419.08. Value of money orders paid to the United States $450,699.08. Value of telegraph money orders issued on the United States, $479,196.38.

The receipts from the telegraph service amounted to $93,302.45 in 1876 against $2,119,281.45 in 1903. There were 109 telegraph offices in 1876 which increased to 418 in 1903. In those 418 telegraph offices, are included two that are operated by wireless telegraphy at a distance of 160 kilometers from each other.

Railroads. ***

In no department of human progress has Mexico advanced so rapidly as in the construction of railroads, and it is to be noted that there is no country that opposes greater difficulties to those works, as its surface is the most mountainous to be found in the world.

Each kilometer constructed may be said to have been a victory of engineering science and daring over natural obstacles. Every section, of a few kilometres in length, presents wonderful beauties of scenery, sometimes smiling and full of light and color, and at other times frightful, and awe-inspiring. The railroad trains, which, starting from the ports penetrate the country to the cities situated on the great central table land, rise, in a few hours of difficult and slow travelling, with powerful engines, to elevations of ten and twelve thousand feet above sea level. With a more level country and without the enormous obstacles that she has had to overcome at every step, Mexico, with the time, the capital and the enormous efforts devoted to the construction of the railroads she has now in operation, would probably by this time have double her present railway mileage. Let us see what statis-

tics tell us with regard to the importance of the Mexican Railroads, and what has been done in that branch of the public service, from 1876 up to the present date.

In 1876, there were six lines constructed in the country; from Mexico to Veracruz, from Apizaco to Puebla, from Veracruz to Medellin, from Merida to Progreso, and from Mexico to Toluca and the Federal District, with a total length of 567 kilometres. In 1903 we already had 87 lines that traversed almost all sections of the country from the northern frontier to near the Guatemalan frontier on the south, with a length of 16,285 kilometres.

In 1876 there were 296 railroad stations and in 1903 there were 1,606. In 1876 the railroads had a passenger traffic of 4,281,327 against 50,343,744 in 1903. In 1876 they transported 133,000 tons of merchandise of all kinds, whilst in 1903 this traffic reached the enormous figure of 6,668,499 tons. Electric tramways did not exist in 1876, but in 1903 there were 265 kilometers constructed that had furnished transportation for 38,452,675 passengers with a revenue of $2,779,509.84.

The railroad receipts in 1876 amounted to $2,564,870.63 against $70,203,002.30 in 1903.

The subsidies paid by the Nation up to 1876 to the six railroad companies then existing amounted to $5,151,905.43 against $144,891,743.92 which have been paid up to 1903.

Five great trunk railroads have been constructed up to the present between the United States and Mexico, which are the Mexican Central, from Mexico to Ciudad Juarez, the National of Mexico, from Mexico to New Laredo, the Mexican International from Torreon to Ciudad Porfirio Diaz and others of lesser importance such as the Sonora, which touches the frontier at Nogales; the Rio Grande, Sierra Madre & Pacific that crosses the frontier at Ciudad Juarez; the Naco and Cananea that crosses at Naco, and the Nacozari that crosses at Agua Prieta.

In 1903, the following lines were under construction: a branch of the National R.R. of Mexico from Monterrey to Matamoros; a branch of the Mexican Central from Guadalajara to Colima; a branch of the Hidalgo railroad to the port of Tuxpam; a branch of the Merida and Peto Railroad to Sotut a branch of the Merida and Valladolid Railroad to Tizimin; the Mexican International; the branch of the Mexican Central from Pachuca to Tampico; the line from Tlacotepec to Huajuapan de Leon; th

Ogario Railroad; the Southeastern of Yucatan; the Xico and San Rafael; the Oaxaca and Ejutla; the Durango and Parral; the line from Marfil to Gonzalez Junction; the line from Cordoba to Huatusco; the Nacozari; the Circumvallation line; Chimalhuacan to Texcoco; Mota del Cura and Carrizos; Kansas City, Mexico and Orient; Naco to Cananea; Pan American; Mexico to Tacubaya; La Piedad to Tacambaro; Refugio to Brisbin; Hornos to Mazapil; Tlalnepantla to Mexico; Avalos to San Pedro Ocampo.

No country in the world can show a similar development in 28 years in the three branches of public service that we have described, and from these alone, even if no others of equal importance existed, we could form an opinion of the enormous steps that this Republic has taken in the path of civilization.

But in the midst of this wonderful progress, there is a fact of such great significance, that in itself it reveals the magnitude of the country's resources and the possession of a vitality such as nobody had expected, and we must therefore, make special mention of it.

Hardly had peace been re-established and the sad traces of our long period of revolutions effaced, while we were still, so to say, convalescent and while the Government was developing its vast plan of reform and public works on the magnificent scale that we have seen, when it found itself surprised by an unexpected event that upset and has continued to disturb the economic interests of the entire world; we refer to the depreciation of silver, the basis of Mexico's monetary system and the most important of its products.

In the face of such an unexpected and serious danger, it was believed that the country would suffer a setback on the road to progress that it was travelling, that it would find itself suddenly detained in its first steps, and that it would be involved in disastrous financial embarrassments, that would render impossible the payment of interest on the debt, or the fulfilment of its engagements with

the railroad companies, or for the execution of the great harbor works and other important enterprises.

Contrary to all these forebodings and pessimistic opinions, the Republic has come out triumphant from the storm; not only did it suffer no setback but it was not even detained on the march of progress on which it had entered with a bold determination, but it also developed the whole of its magnificent scheme of public improvements, which can now be seen crowned with success and admired by the whole world, which sincerely applauds their realization. The Republic has good reason to be proud of a progress that has been as rapid as it is wonderful.

The foresight of the Government and the zeal with which it has watched over the national interests are eloquently shown by the operation which was consummated last year in the purchase of a considerable number of shares in two important railroad systems, that traverse the most populous regions of the Republic; we refer to the National R.R. of Mexico and the Interoceanic. By this transaction the Government has obtained the contral of those lines, through an investment of $5,448,502, in silver, and $7,081,697.11 in American gold.

By this act of wise administrative policy, which has made a favorable impression in all financial circles of the world, on account of its able and bold executions, the Mexican Government has become enabled to prevent the monopolies and combination which those companies might establish to the detriment of the agricultural, industrial and mercantile interests of the Nation. It is with the same object of forestalling monopolies and benefiting the universal trade of the world in the traffic over the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, that the Government has built the railroad and is building the harbor works and terminals on its own account and at a very heavy expense.

The Tehuantepec Railroad being the property of the Nation, it was natural that the Government should do everything possible to bring it into connection with the other lines that form the ge-

neral system of the Republic, and in which, as already stated, it has acquired a controlling interest. On the other hand, it was necessary to establish a means of direct communication between the manufacturing centres of the country and a Pacific port that would be as near as possible to the southern part of the continent, towards which Mexico is turning her eyes, and with which she has already taken the first steps to establish a future trade. Complying with this necessity, which the rapid prosperity of the country indicated as an urgent measure of public interest, the Government has just completed the purchase of the Veracruz & Pacific Railroad, an important trunk line which connects with the Mexican railroad at the station of Cordoba and with the National Tehuantepec Railroad at Santa Lucrecia, thus estalishing through the Port of Salina Cruz, a route between Mexico and the west coast of South America, where there is a natural market for the products of Mexican industry, and by way of Coatzacoalcos to connect with the ports of the Atlantic. Having acquired the ownership of this road, the Government now controls over 4,677 km. 662 m. of the principal lines in operation, and is in a fair way to finally settle its railroad policy as recently initiated, having invested in these purchases a considerable amount of money. The Nation has undoubtedly found itself making a costly effort to carry out this new operation; but its increasing commercial development demanded its execution, and the Government could not avoid it without failing in the original program, which it has systematically developed for the last twenty-eight years, and which can be summarized in this phrase: "EVERYTHING FOR THE NATION AND ITS PROGRESS."

Institutions of Credit.***

As a general rule, Institutions of Credit reflect the financial situation of a country, whether prosperous or not. On this point Mexico can boast that she finds herself in the most satisfactory condition, as demonstrated by the statistical data which will be found in the proper place. These show that in the year 1876 the country had only one bank of issue and discount: the London Bank of Mexico and South America, which operated with a capital of $500,000.

In 1903 we find that thirty-two banking institutions existed [increased to 33 in 1904] whc share capital amounted to $100.150,000.00; coin and bullion on hand to $58.016,168.02; reserve funds $15.352,466.25 and precautionary funds to $4,488,554.02. The bank note issue amounted to $88.03 539.75. The total turn over amounted to $381,562,675.06.

The solidity of the guarantees afforded by the Mexican Banks is demonstrated by the fact th the bank note issue is not much in excess of the coin and bullion on hand, including the reserve a precautionary funds, as can be seen from the above figures. No bank has issued the total amount notes which the law authorizes, and therefore they are operating on a firm basis and their financ condition faithfully reflects the prosperous condition of the Republic.

The Government exercises a strict watch over them so that the interests of the public run risk whatever. The recent failure of a foreign bank, whose head office was established abroad, ind ced the Government to adopt measures of such a nature as will render impossible the repetition such failures, which not only affect individuals but also the credit of the Nation.

Public debt.***

A scrupulous punctuality in the fulfilment of its obligations is the line of conduct that h invariably been followed by the Mexican Government, and this honest and upright method of proce ure has necessarily exercised an influence on the condition of its finances, in which it has not be less successful than in other respects, for whereas in 1876, Mexican bonds were tabooed in the sto exchanges and financial circles of the world, we today find them commanding the highest pri among the public funds of the most prosperous and reputable nations of Latin America.

Let us see the position that Mexico occupied as regards credit, at the commencement of t year 1904:

Argentine 6% Bonds	102–103
" 5% "	100–100½

Brazil	$4^1/_2$% Bonds	$81^3/_4$–83
„	5% „	90–$90^3/_4$
Chile	$4^1/_2$% „	87–$87^1/_2$
„	5% „	82–94
Peru	6% „	98–99
Mexico	5% „	101
„	$4^1/_2$% Treasury Notes	100

It will be seen, from the above statement, that Mexico occupies the first place among all those countries, because, although it is true that the Argentine Republic appears to be in a better position, it must not be forgotten that the better quotations only refer to those of its bonds which bear a higher rate of interest, that is to say 6%.

It is worthy of mention, that the Republic has been able to build up its credit in the midst of very serious difficulties, such as those produced by the violent fall in the price of silver which constitutes its principal source of wealth, not to speak of poor crops and heavy expenses in the numberless public works that have been undertaken. The records of its long and numerous revolutions and of its past insolvency, were so many other obstacles that had to be overcome in order to achieve the result that has been attained.

The firmness and energy displayed by the government in all the features of its policy dissipated the clouds that appeared likely to force a change in its program, and in this matter also it obtained another splendid victory, as thanks to that policy and to the necessary use of credit, which no progressive country desiring punctually to fulfil its obligations can dispense with, it has been able to develop an extensive scheme of improvements and public works on a scale such as it was in duty bound to undertake them without hesitation or fear, so as to enable the country rapidly to progress and attain its legitimate ambition to occupy an honorable place in the concert of civilized nations.

Without any effort and without ever failing in punctuality, it pays the interest on its debt,

which interest as shown in the statistical tables, amounts in 1904 to $25,829,043.99. This sum, is, in no manner, extraordinary in view of the fact that, the public revenues are progressively increasing, as a natural consequence of the increased volume of business and the general prosperity that has been achieved in all branches of national production, coupled with strict honesty in the collection of taxes. At the head of the Finance Department is Hon. José Yves Limantour, whose most important services in the handling of the interests committed to him, have earned for him a world-wide reputation as a consummate financier. He is one of the most efficient colaborers of President Diaz in helping carry the heavy load that weighs on his shoulders and the nation records him as one of its most distinguished sons. His great financial abilities have built up public revenues to a marked extent, have elevated the national credit, and have opened a wide horizon to the economic progress of the country. One of the consequences of his able financial management has been a rapid development in all lines of business, so that, the Government, having at its command abundant resources, can keep up the innumerable public works which are being executed in all parts of the country.

***

Mexico is today, without exaggeration, a huge encampment of toil and activity. If private enterprise employs hundreds of thousands of laborers in the exploitation of mines, agriculture, textile and manufacturing industries, construction of railroads etc., the State and Municipal Governments, which faithfully carry out the ideas of progress that are initiated by the Central Government, occupy legions of artesans in the execution of works of public utility, such as schools, penitentiaries, hospitals, *wagon roads*, bridges, drainage and sanitation of ports and cities, irrigation works, etc. The

Federal Government is pushing forward the termination of the great works it has undertaken for improving the ports of the Republic, and their sanitation is one of those matters that engage its most serious attention, as it fully understands that the unhealthy condition of a port, forms a serious obstacle to the development of its commercial relations with other countries, whilst at the same time it is the imperative duty of every civilized nation to give preferential attention to public hygiene, with which the health and lives of its inhabitants are bound up.

An energetic campaign has been undertaken to banish Yellow Fever, from the Gulf ports, and the most encouraging results have crowned the efforts made to free those places from the terrible scourge, which, year after year, has made innumerable victims and paralized trade. During the present year, due to the efficient methods adopted by the Supreme Board of Health, which is a dependency of the Ministery of the Interior, with Dr. Eduardo Liceaga, a modest but enlightened physician as President, this epidemic has had an especially mild character, as proved by the reports and statistical data that are daily published by that Board in the principal newspapers. Mexico deserves credit, for the campaign initiated against Yellow Fever, as well as for the conduct that she observed at the end of 1902 and beginning of 1903, when the bubonic plague appeared in Mazatlan, her principal port on the Pacific. She then demonstrated to the world that her government knows how to comply with the duties that may be imposed on it by circumstances; she was able to prove that she has sufficient resources available to face any difficulty or public calamity that may present itself, and that she does not ignore the obligations that are imposed on her by International Sanitary Codes.

She never attempted to conceal the appearance of the terrible epidemic within the territory of the Republic; she gave the alarm to neighboring nations, and accepted, without any reserve and with the determination to do her duty, the responsibility with which she was confronted and which obliged her to combat a stealthy foe, which, unless successfully thwarted in its first attacks, might have invaded the whole of America. The history of this event is still fresh in the memory of the world, which thoroughly understands the efforts that Mexico made not to lose the honorable reputation which she has earned abroad.

International Trade. ***

We will now dedicate a few words to another phase of the development of this Republic. The value of its imports and exports, during the year 1903, reached more or less the sum of $400,000,000.00, in Mexican silver. In 1876 it was only $65,000,000.00, silver, and as can be seen, the difference is very remarkable and shows the momentum that has been acquired in all branches of national production and import trade.

It is desirable to give a separate report of the imports and exports for the years 1876 and 1903 respectively.

The imports for the fiscal year of 1874-75 amounted to $18,793,493.61 in gold, whilst for the fiscal year of 1902-03, they amounted to $75,904,807.58 gold.

The exports for the fiscal year of 1874-75, amounted to $27,318,788.10 silver, whilst for the fiscal year of 1902-03, they were $207,377,793.17 silver.

Neither the depreciation of the white metal, which has raised the price of foreign merchandise in silver to two or three times what it was when exchange was at par, nor the development of national manufactures, which throw on the market an immense volume of goods which compete in quality and price with similar imported goods, have been able to reduce the volume of the imports; on the contrary, we find them increasing in volume day by day, showing that there is an enlarged consumption, and consequently, greater purchasing capacity. There can be no better evidence of the gradual improvement in the general welfare of the country.

It is of interest to know the importance of the relations which Mexico maintains with foreign countries, and the statistics afford us these figures with respect to each one of the principal nations with whom we trade.

Import Trade.

Goods imported from the following countries:

	1874-75. GOLD VALUE.	1902-03. GOLD VALUE.
United States	$ 5,028,635.91	$ 40,795,956.45
Great Britain	8,657,163.68	,, 10,331,115.71
Germany	1,005,763.33	,, 9,569,038.95
France	3,096,990.17	,, 6,537,289.18
Spain	914,908.58	,, 3,029,649.97
Belgium		,, 2,589,773.93
British India		,, 521,454.59
Italy		,, 493,164.01
Austria-Hungary		,, 453,396.24
Switzerland		,, 446,801.11
Holland		,, 254,752.40
South America	90,031.94	,, 195.444.19
Cuba		,, 121,102.93
Norway		,, 86,105.89
Other countries		,, 479,762.03
Total	$ 18,793,493.61	$ 75,904,807.58

Classification of Imports. ***

		1874—75	1902—03
		Gold values.	
Animal Substances.			
Live stock, food, industrial, and medicinal products, etc			$ 4,734,437.60
Vegetable Substances.			
Fruits, grains, live plants, seeds, manufactures, textile fibres, fodder, building lumber, railroad ties, posts, furniture, etc			13,532,548.79
Mineral Substances.			
Manufactures of gold, silver, platinum, tin, copper, iron, steel; rails, stone, clay, crockery-ware, crystal, glass, etc			24,016,422.81
Textile Manufactures.	Total	$ 18,793,493.61	
Yarn of cotton, wool, silk, linen, hemp, and other fibres			9,766,154.64
Chemical and Pharmaceutical products			2,791,622.83
Spirituous, fermented and natural liquors			3,133,238.06
Paper and its applications			1,925,361.46
Machines			10,337,085.06
Vehicles			1,713,669.68
Arms and explosives			1,796,311.85
Sundries			2,157,954.80
		$ 18,793,493.61	$ 75,904,807.1

As can be seen from the above return, the imports of 1874-75 are given in a lump sum, and ot in detail as for 1902-03 or in their order or classification, as at that period the Custom Houses ere not as well organized as they are at present, and the returns were, therefore, very deficient.

Exports. ***

	1874-75.	1902-03.
	Declared value.	
To the United States	$ 10,358,167.90	$ 139,567,083.33
„ Great Britain	9,219,837.40	26,764,507.82
„ Germany	444,344.00	9,491,363.30
„ Cuba		6,103,432.00
„ Belgium		5,634,407.88
„ France	5,724,063.52	3,653,948.44
„ Spain	764,191.16	1,163,798.00
„ Central America		359,042.52
„ South America	808,184.12	58,251.81
„ Holland		89,166.00
„ Other countries		104,492.58
Total	$ 27,318,788.10	$ 192,989,493.68

The Mining Industry furnished the largest contingent, as it represents a value of $113,992,-01.80 in 1903, against $20,294,321.42 in 1874-75, as is shown below.

Mineral Exports. ***

	1874-75.	1902-03.
Gold.		Declared value.
Gold ores, in rock or dust		$ 276,741.77
Gold bullion		8,928,067.51
Cyanides		81,027.71
Sulphurets		67,517.19
Mexican gold coin		106,630.00
Foreign „ „		9,329.00
Total export of gold		$ 9,469,313.18
Silver.		
Silver ores, in rock or dust		$ 8,068,685.24
Mexican silver coin	$ 20,294,321.42	
Foreign „ „		21,098,739.00
Silver bullion		85,540.67
Silver (a) in bars		9,303,963.01
„ (b) in lead bars		27,819,020.94
„ (c) allied with copper		8,634,407.41
Cyanides		149,238.26
Sulphurets		1,614,194.51
Smelter slags		180,924.00
Total exports of silver	$ 20,294,321.42	$ 77,554,713.04
Total exports of silver and gold		87,024,026.22

Industrial Metals and ores containing them. ***

	1874-75.	1902-03.
		Declared value.
Antimony		823,995.00
Antimony ores		14,297.00
Copper		18,861,089.15
Copper ores		1,261,249.27
Lead		5,668,240.16
MINERAL FUELS.		
Asphalt		9,543.00
Coal		52,584.00
SUNDRY.		
Sulphur		1,110.00
Marble in the rough		150,646.00
Plumbago		85,970.00
Salt		9,385.00
Mineral products not otherwise specified		57,067.00
Total mineral exports	$ 20,294,321.42	$ 113,992,201.80

The values of the exports are given in silver, with the exception of the gold and gold ore, hich according to law are calculated at the rate of $675.416. per kilogram of pure gold. The value the silver is calculated at the rate of $40.915. per kilogram of pure silver.

The extraordinary impulse that the mining industry has received can be estimated by the mber of mining properties in 1902 and 03.

Mining Properties Recorded. ***

CLASSIFICATION.

June 30th 1904.

	Properties.	Hectares.	Ares.
Gold and Silver.			
Gold	1,523	20,319	76
Gold and Silver	5,218	54,329	40
Silver	5,150	44,799	27
	11,891	119,448	43
Gold, Silver with other Metals.			
Gold, silver and copper	847	15,002	11
,, ,, ,, lead	874	10,835	04
,, and copper	237	3,703	71
Silver ,, ,,	705	7,611	89
,, ,, ,, and lead	264	4,533	81
,, ,, lead	2,908	31,018	46
,, ,, manganese	4	71	,,
,, ,, mercury	4	53	58

Other Metals and Minerals.

Antimony	47	2,113	72
Sulphur	106	3,708	68
Bismuth	1	24	,,
Copper	809	21,887	34
,, and iron	179	4,495	74
,, ,, lead	19	509	30
Tin	32	981	,,
Garnet and tourmaline	1	2	,,
Iron	341	15,040	20
Manganese	13	238	,,
Mercury	161	5,623	22
Nickel and cobalt	1	3	,,
Opal	18	51	75
Lead	80	1,009	26
Mineral salt	4	104	,,
Tellurium			
Turquoise	2	6	
Zinc			
	1,814	55,797	21
Gold and silver	11,891	119,448	43
,, ,, ,, with other metals.	5,843	72,829	60
Other metals and minerals....8	1,814	55,797	21
	19.548	248,075	24

We now present a return of the agricultural and manufacturing products as follows:

Agricultural Products Exported***

	1874-75.	1902-03.
		Declared value.
Coffee		$ 9,021,501.09
Chicle		1,473,836.68
Beans		553,303.28
Fresh and dried fruits		403,329.75
Chick-peas		1,430,543,25
Henequen fibre		32,620,579.50
Ixtle „		3,126,624.90
Woods of all kinds		1,837,736.50
Fustic		305,164.43
Dye-woods	$ 7,024,466.68	964,015.46
Broom root		1,587,350.00
Leaf tobacco		1,383,301.36
Manufactured tobacco		654,229.09
Vanilla		1,427,984.00
Rubber		325,012,60
Horses and mules		599,355.00
Cattle and other animals		6,401,321.50
Hides and skins		7,466,481.50
Manufactured henequen		1,356,519.00
Sundry products		6,059,102.99
Total value of exports	$ 7,024,466.68	$ 78,997,291.88

As can be seen, our mining industry figures in the first place in our export trade, but although this industry has rendered Mexico famous since the early days of the discovery of America, it will be relegated to a very secondary place and tropical agriculture is coming rapidly to the fore and will become a source of incalculable wealth. The United States and Canada now have a population of nearly 100,000,000. which within half a century, will almost be doubled. This enormous population will supply itself, in its vast and rich territory, with the food products which it requires as well as those that may be necessary for its industries; but they will only be the products which can be cultivated in the cold regions of the north. Mexico will be the natural source of supply for tropical products, and although Cuba, Puerto Rico and the other West India Islands, with the coasts of the Caribbean Sea, Panama, Brazil, etc., may enter into competition, Mexico will always have the great advantage of proximity and shorter transportation.

The railroads bring the centres of population of the United States and Canada into close touch with the tropical regions of Mexico, and thus complete the work of nature, which has placed the two great American Republics close to each other, so that they may mutually supply each other with what they require and with what is produced throughout the earth.

One of the great problems that is now being studied in Mexico, is the irrigation of the extensive plains that form the great central tableland, which are now almost barren for want of water. The agricultural resources of the country will never be able to reach that full development which is necessary to furnish traffic for the railroads, increase her commerce, both inward and outward, and furnish work and a living for her numerous population, as long as there is no water to fertilize and render productive the immense arid and desolate plains that stretch for hundreds of leagues over the central and northern states of the Republic, and the Government, which fully understands this necessity, is taking steps to solve this problem with the necessary promptitude.

The crowning work of General Diaz will be the solution of this problem. Large sums will be required for the execution of the necessary work; but once executed, the wealth of the country will be multiplied and a living secured for many centuries, for many millions of beings.

What is called the great central tableland of Mexico, which it is proposed to irrigate, covers a square area of 136 millares or approximately 33,605,600 acres. Ten million dollars have been allowed by the Federal Government in order to commence the great work of irrigation, the immense importance of which for the future of the country is hardly to be conceived.

The variety of tropical fruits produced in Mexico, is really marvellous, and they have an exquisite flavor, whilst their cultivation constitutes one of the most productive industries of the country We have presented a return of the products exported and with respect to those which are not exported but dedicated to local consumption, we now present some interesting data for the year 1902.

Cereals.**

Rice—kilograms	18,126,070.
Barley—hectolitres	2,130,118.
Corn „	27,521,808.
Wheat- kilograms	229,892,752.

Leguminous plants.

Sugar cane—kilograms	2,745,686,000.

Alcohol and fermented liquors.

Cane alcohol—litres	35,818,500.
Corn „ „	4,913,200.
Pulque „ „	394,100.
[illegible] (extracted from the agave) litres	12,800,300.
„ „	6,076,900.

Textiles.

Cotton —kilograms	22,529,407.

Food products.

Cocoa —kilograms	3,428,525.

Cattle.

CENSUS OF 1902.

	HEADS	VALUE
Cattle	5,142,457	$81,407,619.00
Horses	859,217	10,822,203.00
Mules	334,435	10,576,958.00
Asses	287,981	2,360,552.00
Sheep	3,424,430	6,037,306.00
Goats	4,706,011	7,250,430.00
Hogs	616,138	2,069,000.00
	14,870,680	$120,523.168.00

The number and value of the cattle shown in the above return must not be taken as exact, as farmers refuse to declare the truth to the statistical agents of the Government.

The field for this industry is ample in Mexico. The states of Vera Cruz, Tabasco, and Oaxaca

are themselves capable of feeding millions of heads of cattle which is one of the most profitable industries.

The Pan American Railroad which has already penetrated into the State of Chiapas, in its progress towards the southern part of the continent, will open to the markets of the world, one of the richest sections, not only of Mexico, but of the whole of America. Chiapas is an unknown country which whill furnish employment to inmense capital in the exploitation of its fabulous riches. It has an area of 70,000 square kilometres with a population of 360,799 inhabitants, which gives an average of one inhabitant for every 5.11 square kilometres, over an area that is equal to that of Switzerland and Belgium together which have a population of about 11,000,000 on 72,000 square kilometres.

Chiapas is the cradle of American civilization and may be likened to the ancient Greece of the old world. In no part of the continent that was discovered by the genius of Columbus, from the Magellan Straits to the Behring Sea, do we find the historical ruins that exist on her soil, as mute witnesses to her past grandeur. The ruins of immense cities that were as populous as New York and London are still to be seen rising majestically and imposing in the heart of the century old forests. One of these marvellous cities is Palenque, the palaces, the fortresses and the monuments that time has been unable entirely to destroy in thousands of years cover many square miles, and these silent walls demonstrate the fact, that the country was at one time occupied by a rich, powerful, artistic and cultured people.

Once that section is opened to trade by the railroads, it will again become by the action of the eternal laws of the evolution of the species, what it was in remote ages, an emporium of wealth and civilization.

International Navigation. ***

The steamers and sailing ships which have carried on our international trade were under the *following flags:*

Steamships.	1885—1886		1902—1903	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
British	132	155,930	305	808,303
United States	522	716,799	238	694,572
Norwegian.	3	1,149	201	293,928
Spanish	79	125,189	64	248,231
German	36	46,736	85	272,608
French	14	22,631	14	80,234
Italian	,,	,,	4	19,230
Austrian	,,	,,	6	18,409
Belgian	,,	,,	1	3,202
Cuban	,,	,,	22	38,722
Danish	,,	,,	1	2,886
Portuguese	,,	,,	,,	,,
Russian	,,	,,	,,	,,
Swedish	,,	,,	5	13,651
Uruguayan	,,	,,	1	3,511
Dutch	,,	,,	18	52,074
Mexican	55	78,779	4	1,649
Totals	841	1,147,213	969	2,551,210

Sailing Ships.	1885--1886		1902--1903	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage
British	31	10,110	188	31,971
United States	174	37,511	210	56,412
Norwegian	82	27,058	55	26,201
Spanish	67	6,509	5	977
German	87	29,982	23	32,942
French	20	6,317	,,	,,
Italian	3	671	4	1,692
Austrian	,,	,,	1	334
Belgian	,,	,,	,,	,,
Cuban	,,	,,	2	664
Danish	20	6,054	5	4,209
Portuguese	,,	,,	1	499
Russian	3	849	16	5,583
Swedish	23	6,727	6	2,394
Uruguayan	,,	,,	,,	,,
Dutch	,,	,,	2	702
Mexican	53	3,732	12	1,004
Chinese	27	330	,,	,,
Hawaian	1	382	,,	,,
Nicaraguan	1	28	,,	,,
Totals	592	136,260	530	165,584

Manufacturing Industries.

The Mexican exhibit is there and the reader can see with his own eyes, the progress made in this line.

Cotton fabrics which have no cause to fear comparison with the best products of England and the United States, as well as linen and silk goods. Tweeds and other woolen goods that rival the French and German makes; leather, glass and crockery; artistic furniture made of richest woods and unquestionable taste; wines, spirits and beers; manufactured tobacco that can compete with the most famous products of Cuba; shoes, hats, jute and henequen goods and an infinite number of other articles that form the Mexican exhibit, all arranged beside the natural products of the soil.

This remarkable advancement in Mexican industries, is due to the following causes:

1. The rise of exchange on gold, which has considerably enhanced the silver value of foreign goods and thus allows the manufacturers to compete advantageously in prices with similar products from abroad.
2. The confidence inspired in capitalists who wish to open business in the country.
3. The liberal protection given by the Government to all new enterprises.
4. Cheap labor.
5. The cultivation and production of the raw materials on Mexican soil.

If among those materials there are some that as yet are not cultivated on such a scale as to meet the requirements of industry, it will only be a short time before those requirements are fully satisfied, as Mexico possesses, within her territory, all the climates of the universe and is, therefore, in a position to produce all the fruits of the earth.

Silk cocoons, cotton, ramie, jute, henequen and textile fibres of every species; barley, hops and grapevines; precious woods, marbles, skins and rubber; resinous, dye and medicinal plants; gold, silver, iron, lead, copper and everything that the mineral, animal and vegetable kingdoms can furnish

for industrial purposes of manufacturing those innumerable articles that constitute the wealth and trade of many countries, are to be found there in immense variety. The manufacturing industries of Mexico are assuming an extraordinary importance, and the day is not far off, when, from an importing country as it has been up to the present date, it will be converted into a nation of exporters.

We present returns of the principal manufacturing industries that are exploited, leaving out many others, because we believe that these mentioned will be sufficient to give an idea of the progress that has been made in this branch of industry, for the reasons already set forth.

Peace having been firmly established in the country and general confidence being felt in its future, the manufacturing industries will necessarily attain a great development in the future. No safer investment of capital could be made. It is true that, up to the present date, coal which is such an important factor in industrial life, has appeared to be wanting in the country and for this reason it was doubted whether those industries could succeed; but coal does exist in the country, as many other products exist which have only lately been discovered. Did any one believe, ten years ago, that copper existed in sufficient quantities to be worth exploiting? Was it considered probable that Mexico could produce oil? Was anything beyond silver extracted from the mines during a period of more than three centuries?

Mexico, as a copper producer, promises to outstrip Spain and the United States, which have been the leaders in the production of this metal. Petroleum is commencing to spout, as if by magic, in different parts of the Republic. It is prophesied that Mexico will be a rival to Texas and California, and the same thing will happen with regard to coal, and then Mexico will feel her industrial future secured.

But without waiting to plant lucrative industries in Mexico, for the co-operation of the black diamonds we have both petroleum and water. Water is scarce on the central tableland, but on the slopes towards the coast there are numberless streams which like enormous silver serpents, wind their way down from the heights, and empty their waters into those of the ocean. Many thousand horse power are wasted in these streams, and many fortunes are contained in those water falls, that flow

into the sea without being utilized by men in the establishment of industrial plants that could form sources of wealth and centres of labor, in which many thousands of workmen might find occupation.

As a very significant proof of the importance that the Mexican industry is acquiring, we must mention the triumph scored at the World's Fair of St. Louis by the "Cuauhtemoc" Brewery, established in the city of Monterey, in competition with all other beers that entered into contest, said brewery having obtained the only *Grand Prize*, awarded by the jury, on account of the superiority of its products.

Industrial Plants Existing in Mexico.**

	1876.*	1903.
Spinning and weaving factories		113
Spinning and printing factories		10
Cotton printing factories		7
Spinning factories		8
Clothing factories		6
Fibre spinning and weaving factories		152
Tobacco factories		242
Breweries		37
Wine and liquor factories		56
Canning factories		62
Paper factories		10
China factories		128
Glass factories		10
Factories of Sewer Pipe		

	1876.
Packing houses and Canneries	
Petroleum Refineries	
Rope Walks	
Glicerine and Explosive Factories	
Aeretated Water Factories	
Railroad Car Factories	
Jute Carpet and Bagging Factories	
River Steamer Building Yards	
Smelters	
Flour Mills	

Army and Navy.***

The Government and the people co-operating for a common ideal, which is the maint peace, the effective strength of the army has been reduced to 28,179 men of all arms as to l the following. General list of army in 1904:

Division Generals	8	
Brigadier	54	
Brevet Brigadiers	48	
Coronels, Lieutenant Coronels, Majors	758	
Other Commissioned officers	2,526	
Common soldiers	24,785	28,179

Horses	6,683	
Fraction animals	2,765	9,448
Cannon in service	98	
„ „ armories	163	261

In December 1876 it had a strength of 37,468. Its armament consisted of the Remington rifle of 13 millimetres calibre and of six or seven different arms of different systems and calibres for infantry, and of carbines of the same variety for the cavalry. The artillery was supplied with smooth bore muzzle loading brass guns with a calibre of 12 centimetres and rifle howitzers of 16 centimetres calibre. The mountain gun was of the old Austrian rifle, a pattern with a calibre of 7 centimetres.

The appropriations for the army and navy in 1877 amounted to $6,818,645.43 whilst in 1904 they amount to $16,373,575.80.

The present strength of the army having been reduced, it might seem natural that the appropriations should be less than in 1876, whilst the fact is that they have increased, and this is explained by the great improvements that have been made in the Navy. Naval schools have been established and training and transport vessels have been acquired; whilst although the land forces are smaller in number, they require a heavier expense on account of their better equipment and general conditions, which are in every way very superior to those of former years.

Mexico making no claims to be a military power, without disturbances at home and with nothing to fear from abroad, as her international policy is based on the most absolute good faith and her conduct is governed by the celebrated phrase of the immortal Juarez: "PEACE IS RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS," [a saying that might be taken as a standard by all the nations of the earth, so that the much desired universal peace might become a fact and not a vain dream], her standing army and navy must correspond to the pacific spirit that animates her government and people.

Nevertheless, her small army can favorably compare with the best in America and Europe as regards discipline, instruction and military bearing, and is supplied with the most modern existing armament. The infantry is armed with the seven millimetre Mauser rifle and the cavalry with the Mauser and Remington carabines. The artillery is armed with field and mountain guns of the Bange steel pattern, the Saint Chalmond Mondragon seventy millimetre gun, the German 80 millimetre Krupp gun, the French Schneider-Canet 75 millimetre rapid fire gun, and the Colts and Hotchkiss seven millimetre machine gun. The Mondragon 70 millimetre gun, invented by the Mexican Colonel of that name, has brought him the warmest congratulations in France and was adopted by the Mexican Government after numerous experiments that gave the most brilliant results.

The cavalry regiments of the line and those of the auxilary service that are popularly called «Rurales» are the admiration of every foreigner who for the first time sees them maneuver with a dexterity and military chic, that could with difficulty be matched in the cavalry of other nations.

Smokeless powder and explosive factories, as well as of arms and ammunition of all kinds, workshops and foundries, shooting ranges, academies of scientific instruction, ambulance services, army medical corps and hospitals; transport services, barracks workshops for the construction of rolling stock, etc., complete the military organization. The new building intended for the Department of War and Marine, that has been erected on the east side of the National Palace, is of a severe style of architecture. It has been built with masonry on a steel frame, and its cost has been $419,260.82, taking advantage of the old walls of the Viceregal Palace, which is now the National Palace.

As regards the Mexican Navy, it only consists of coast guard vessels of small tonnage and light draught, in order that they may serve the object to which they are dedicated and which is that of attending to the lighthouse service, the transportation of troops, provisions, ammunition, etc.

In 1876 we had only four of these ships, «La Libertad» and «Independencia» on the Gulf Coast and the «Democrata» and «Mexico» on the Pacific.

At present we have the «Zaragoza» and «Yucatan» school corvettes in the Gulf, besides the «*Tampico,*» «*Veracruz,*» «*Bravo*» and «Morelos» gun-boats. On the Pacific coast the service is carried

on by the «Democrata» and the «Oaxaca.» All of these vessels are armed with rapid fire guns of the Cannet, Nordenfelt and Bethlehem patterns, Hotchkiss machine guns and Whitehead torpedo tubes.

There is a Naval School in the Port of Veracruz, devoted to the technical instruction of naval officers. In this port an arsenal and a floating dock have been constructed, that not only do the repair work on the Government vessels, but at the same time render useful service to the merchant marine. On the Pacific coast, in the extensive harbor of Guaymas, a careening ship has been constructed that will also render useful service to the naval and merchant marine.

The Mexican army is organized according to the most modern and scientific principles, and occupies as high a position as the first armies of Europe. It is no longer composed of ignorant and undisciplined masses, under the command of general or subordinate officers improvised in revolutions, but of aggregations well instructed in the art of war. The staff of officers is composed of young men of good families who have graduated in the technical schools and have a thorough knowledge of the new tactics. Their civil education is correct, their morality severe and their bearing distinguished. Many of them are sent to Europe to study the latest discoveries of science, and the knowledge thus acquired is immediately applied in practice, so that the army may be said to consist of a body of instructed men, who in case of need are competent to meet on equal terms the regular armies of other countries.

The Mexican soldier, educated as he now is, combines all the attributes of a perfect soldier, sober, as far as a man can be, enduring on campaign, accustomed to marches of fifty and sixty kilometres, with traditional valor inherited from two heroic and warlike races, the Aztec and the Castilian, whose valiant deeds in the old and new world fill glorious pages of history. If unfortunately war should arise, he would know how to dispute the victory, not with barren acts of heroism which are undoubtedly very beautiful and sublime; but not productive of practical results, but by means of science and strategy, with the assistance of the modern armament that has been placed in his hands, and which he perfectly understands and manages.

The Mexican people come of a stock that is of itself naturally warlike. Educated by centuries

of war, the man who has never seen or held a rifle, becomes first class warrier from one day to another. Valiant, stoical, impassible and serene in the presence of death, he succumbs on the field of battle, rather than show his back to the enemy.

We cannot do less than recognize the character and individuality of this people, and it is to those traits that we can attribute the tenacity which distinguishes it, the obstinacy of the Aztec race, as we might call it. Cuauhtemoc, the heroic Emperor who during the siege of Tenochtitlan made the «Conqueror» Hernan Cortes weep over his defeat at the foot of the famous «tree of the mournful night,» did not tremble in presence of the stake, which was carbonizing his members nor allowed his executioners to see either fear or shrinking. Juarez, the saviour of the Republic in 1861, and later in 1867, is represented by history as of a majestic bearing, cold, impassible, and immutable in the moment of greatest danger.

A people that descends from that race will always show a most determined character, and this is what makes men as well as nations. Such nations merit full confidence.

In war they die or conquer. In time of peace they are inflexible in their resolution to maintain it.

Public Education.

Public education is obligatory in Mexico.

The figures presented below, show that this branch of the Public Administration, the first that demands the attention of a Government, has not been neglected.

A great nation can only be formed of educated citizens. An ignorant people can never constitute a strong, great, free nation, absolute mistress of her destiny. To attempt to found a great nation without forming citizens who would be competent to exercise their civil rights and duties, would be as absurd as to build the heavy walls of a great palace on a foundation of quicksand, and this absurdity cannot be admitted, dealing with a Government like the present one of Mexico, whose good judgement is manifested in the most insignificant acts. Let us see what the statistics show.

Public School Returns for 1876.

Official Schools.	Federal. (1)	State.	Municipal.	Total
Primary Schools	44	925	3,573	4,542
Pupils-male	739	25,170	75,839	101,748
„ female	730	14,563	33,688	48,981
Secondary and high Schools	11	40	122	173
Pupils-male	1,767	3,192	5,695	10,654
„ female	316	481	2,519	3,316
Professors,-male (2)	251	908	2,041	3,200
„ female	35	311	882	1,228

Expenses.

Federal Government	$ 525,665.20	
State Governments	596,419.88	
Municipalities	926,960.48	
	$ 2,049,045.56	2,049,045.56

(1) These are only dates taken from the territories, as it was impossible to obtain them from the Federal District.
(2) The professors, male and female, are the total numbers for the primary, secondary and high schools.

Public Schools Returns for 1903.

Official Schools.	Federal.	State.	Municipal.	
—	—	—	—	
Primary Schools	505	5,757	3,284	
Pupils-male	25,559	236,387	121,435	3
„ female	23,272	140,602	84,260	2
Secondary and High Schools	15	258	78	
Pupils male	2,376	21,009	1,666	
„ female	1,163	13,926	1,357	
Professors, male	1,164	4,288	2,611	
„ female	1,332	2,964	1,097	

Expenses.

Federal Government	$ 3,599,665.16
State Governments	3,832,712.51
Municipalities	1,627,947.91
	$ 9,060,325.58

Private Schools in 1876.**

SCHOOLS.	CATHOLIC.	PROTESTANT.	SECULAR.	TOTAL.
Primary Schools	103	10	797	910
Pupils, male	3,861	272	11,367	15,500
„ female	2,779	137	8,031	10,947
Secondary and High Schools	24	1	8	33
Pupils, male	1,389	65	217	1,671
„ female	0	20	0	20
Professors, male	214	12	446	672
„ female	18	3	444	467

Private Schools in 1903.**

SCHOOLS.	CATHOLIC.	PROTESTANT.	SECULAR.	TOTAL.
Primary Schools	332	102	1,155	1,589
Pupils, male	15,229	2,970	27,919	46,118
„ female	10,811	5,473	24,127	40,411
Secondary and High Schools	37	23	44	104
Pupils, male	1,274	487	1,774	3,335
„ female	497	421	559	1,477
Professors, male	517	126	[illegible]	[illegible]
„ female	175	159	[illegible]	[illegible]

Summary.

Making a general comparative summary of the two periods, we find the following results:

	1876	1903
Total Official, Catholic, Protestant and Secular schools	5,567	11,590
Total professors of both sexes	5,658	16,983
Total pupils of both sexes	192,837	764,353
Total expense of public education	$ 2,049,045.56	$ 9,060,325.58

The above figures could not be more eloquent. Before 1876 the professional studies received greater attention than primary education, which is that which merits the special efforts of the State, because it is not the privileged classes that make a nation but the mass of the people, and it is the latter who require attention and education in order to elevate their moral level and make of each citizen a useful factor who will co-operate towards the common prosperity and the regular working of the complicated social machine. It has been understood by the Mexican Government and the education of the masses now receives preferential attention. To this object the different States and Municipalities are earnestly co-operating, as can be seen from the figures above given.

The institutions of higher education are, nevertheless, liberally supported by the Federal and State Governments. The gratuitous courses there studied comprise all known professional careers, such as Medicine, Pharmacy, Surgery and Obstetrics, Engineering, Mining, Topography, Hydrography, Jurisprudence and Notarial practice, Agriculture and Veterinary Surgery. There are Academies of Music and Declamation, of Science and Literature, of Fine Arts; a School of Commerce and Administration, Normal schools for Professors, Naval and Military Schools, Electrical Schools, etc.

There are one hundred and twenty-four Public Libraries with 665,710 volumes, 39 Scientific and five Literary societies, and 37 Museums of all kinds.

The official schools are secular, in harmony with the institutions that govern the Republic. The State has no religion but protects and guarantees all creeds. Church and state are absolutely independent of each other. Religious communities, whatever may be their character, are prohibited. Civil marriage has been the law since the year 1858.

In matters of this kind, Mexico is at the head of many countries and has happily travelled the road that other nations will sooner or later have to travel.

We would call attention to the increase in the number of schools and pupils maintained by the Protestant Clergy, which in our opinion is a clear evidence of the importance that the foreign element is acquiring in the country and the confidence inspired among foreigners. Without the peace and guarantees for life and property which are enjoyed in Mexico, and without the facilities for rapid communication which are available, immigrants would not flock into its territory on the scale that is now observed from all parts of the world. We do not now see the daring adventurer who in former times reached our shores with the object of improvising a fortune at any cost, in order to return afterwards to his own country to enjoy it. The foreigner now comes with the previous knowledge that his person will be safe, that the fruits of his labor will be zealously protected, that he can travel throughout the country without the slightest danger; and finding himself in as comfortable circumstances as in his own country, he forms a family, erects temples for his religious services, sustains benevolent institutions, founds schools for the education of his children, invests his capital in the country, and co-operates in its progress with a sincere affection for what he considers his adopted land.

Female education is also the object of special care and Mexico has associated herself with the universal sentiment that appears to have taken possession of all elevated spirits, in view of the injustice and errors that have been committed in past times by men who excluded woman from all participation in the movement of human progress, by closing the doors of the schools to her the right to illuminate her intelligence with the rays of

To restore her natural rights to woman, to elevate her intelligence and fortify her spirit so that she may be self-sufficient in all the vicissitudes of life, to place in her hands sufficient resources of her own to save her from the abyss that so frequently opens at her feet on account of the condition of her sex, to redeem her from the painful slavery to which she is subject through a monstrously defective education, will be the noble task of the men of the future, bequeathed to them by the men of today.

Mexico has frankly entered on the flourishing period in which the school and the book are the workshop in which the intelligence and ambition of future men are formed, and in which the recital of lessons is everywhere heard as the harmonious prelude of the hymn that a happy people sing in praise of work and peace. This flourishing condition is powerfully assisted by the efficient action of the courts of law. The administration of justice among us has been raised to the level of modern nations, so that the foreigner misses nothing on this point when he finds himself in Mexico. The judicial department, which enjoys complete independence under the Constitution of the Republic, exercises its functions without the slightest interference on the part of the Executive and such are the learning, rectitude and serene impartiality now required of judicial functionaries, that the people generally and with the greatest confidence, appeal to the Tribunals for justice against all who in any way wrong them, against the rich and even against persons in power, as well as against those who have unquestioned influence in higher government circles. On a certain solemn occasion, the initiator of the economic and social reform of Mexico, President Diaz, pronounced this famous saying that he has tried to make effective in all spheres of his government. *"It is necessary to have faith in justice."* And in Mexico, this faith is already established.

Our Codes in Civil and Penal matters, as well as the administrative laws, are derived from the legislation of the most civilized nations of the world, especially from the French, which is the most perfect at present. We also have the procedure called "Amparo" which, in the opinion of notable ju-

rists, is superior to the "Writ of Habeas Corpus." Under the Amparo procedure, any citizen who considers that his rights as a man, such as the liberty of the press, of teaching, of work, of religious belief, of personal security, of movement, or of domicile have been violated by any law or person in authority, may demand justice from the Federal Tribunal or its auxiliaries, and the latter in each case immediately suspends the effects of the law or the act complained of, even when such act emanates from the President of the Republic of the Governor of a State, who like the last citizen, come equally under the sword of justice whenever they have rendered themselves amenable to its action. In this connection, the inflexible and upright reformer has introduced a novelty in the country that has caused great surprise and a greateful impression among his countrymen and the foreign residents. Before the present administration came in, persons in power were accustomed to violate laws with impunity and to over-ride the rights of the weak, whilst now they find themselves obliged to pay profound respect to the rights of all because General Diaz will not tolerate any injustice whatever. Whenever any abuse is committed by a person in authority and reaches his knowledge, it is at once corrected and punished if it is within his power to do justice, and if not, he uses his influence to have the guilty party brought before the competent authority, so that we have of late years seen Colonels, Generals, Deputies and Governors brought before the bar of justice.

We have above presented a sketch of the situation of Mexico at the commencement of the 20th Century. Business men can find in these few pages, sufficient data to form an opinion of the economic condition of a country, that in 28 years has made admirable progress and now offers an ample field for all talents and for all undertakings that enterprising men could develop in any branch of human activity. Scientific men will in their turn find matter worthy of study in the radical transformation that has been made in a country, that for many years was the object of the most biting censure and that today causes universal astonishment at the enterprise and public spirit that are shown by its people, who dedicate the whole of their energies to peace and labor.

A population of 100,000,000 would find a comfortable home and living in Mexico. In her territory are found all the climates of the globe and her soil produces all the fruits of the earth; her mountains are encrusted with gold and silver in almost virgin state, nothwithstanding the fact that her mines have produced almost one half of the white metal that in the form of coin circulates throughout the world.

From 1876 up to the present date, the mining industry has reached such a degree of development owing to the railroads that have penetrated the mining centres and the modern methods employed in their workings, that the day is not far distant in which Mexico will astonish the world by her enormous production of the precious metal. Copper, for instance, that up to 1876 hardly figured in the export returns with a very insignificant value, figures in the year 1903 with a value of $20.-122,338.42.

The same increase can be noted in the production of gold, as this, in 1903, has reached the amount of $11.537,390.00.

Immense deposits of petroleum have been found in different parts of the country and powerful companies are organized to operate this new industry, that promises to have a great future. Recent discoveries of extensive beds of coal indicate that the presence of the black diamond will soon form one of the resources of the wealth and industrial progress of the country.

The mining industry is in its infancy and the same may be said of all the others, the agricultural, the manufacturing etc. What field could be more desirable for capital and enterprise?

What Mexico has done up to the present date in developing her own prosperity cannot be considered as more than a commencement, as the preliminary labors that necessarily precede the execution of all great enterprises. What is to be expected in the future, the development that will be *required by all business* in this country, when her territory is crossed from one end to the other by *an extensive system of railways, her ports* improved, peace well secured and life and property as well

guaranteed as they could be in the best and most cultured nations of the world, is an almost impossible thing to foresee, as we will there find hidden sources of wealth that are as yet ignored and that will convert the country into an El Dorado during the present century, "The Golden Century of Mexico," as it will come to be called in history.

We consider it conducive to our ends to present a comparative table of the summary of the most important matters in which the country has progressed from 1876 to 1904, and for that purpose we beg that the reader will examine the figures we give below.

At first sight and at a single glance, the reader will observe the remarkable advance that has taken place during the last 28 years, as the column for the year 1876 appears deserted, the numbers are isolated and the figures are very low, revealing the bad economic conditions and the slight progress of that period, while in the column for 1903, the figures are numerous, form compact files and the units are elevated to many millions, showing the great steps by which the Republic advances, firm and mistress of herself on the path of greatness.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

Population of the Republic.	1876**	1903***
Number of inhabitants (data of 1876 general census of 1900).....	9,380,439	13,605,000
(The population must at present be estimated at 15,000,000.)		

Public Revenues.* Federal Government.**	1876	1903.
Appropriations (1877-78 and 1904-1905).....	19.088,158.36	$ 81.061,078.08
Details of appropriation:		
Legislature.....	957,319.12	1,161,052.70
Executive.....	48,172.40	282,341.11
Judicial.....	328,228.00	452,862.10
Department of Foreign Affairs.....	189,160.00	1.516.528.23
Department of Interior.....	2.262,165.60	11.132,749.38
„ „ Justice.....	465,848.00	1.196,840.95
Sub-Department of Public Education (1)....	525,665.20	3.599,655.16
Department of Fomento.....	2.777,000.00	1.564.972.40
„ „ „ Communications (2).	0	10.209,605.21
„ „ „ Treasury.....	4.715,954.61	7.741,851.05
Service of the Public Debt.....	0	25.829,043.99
Department of War and Marine.....	6.818,645.43	16.373,575,80
Revenues: (1877-78 and 1903-1904.)*		
The revenues are derived from the following taxes:		
Customs Duties.....	12.235,037.36	37.436,058.24
Stamp Tax.....	3.269,529.46	30.963,107.74
Other minor taxes.....	6.328,885.48	17.988,000.00

(1) In 1877 Public Education was under the Department of Justice while the Sub-Department which now exclusively manages th
did not exist at that time.
(2) *The Departments of Fomento and Communications* were under one sole head in 1877.

	1876	1903.
State Governments.* **		
Appropriations of the 27 States that form the Confederation	7.190,083.64	21.963,264.91
Revenues from other taxes	5.299,793.52	22.067,593.48
Municipalities of the Republic.* ** (1)		
Appropriations of the City of Mexico and the Federal District	902,454.37	9.927,603.00
Revenues obtained from all kinds of taxes	896,723.85	8.560,268.23
Appropriations of all Municipalities of the republic	3.898,773.74	13.797,617.46
Revenues from all taxes	3.924,921.03	14.181,436.60
Buildings in precincts of Mexico City.* **		
Properties in existence (excl. public edifices) $	6,842.00	11,132.00
Public Treasury. * **		
l Treasury Reserve Fund (gold and silver)	0	$ 30,917,018.35
overnment Reserves (silver)	0	3,137,620.25
al Reserves (silver)	0	

e City of Mexico and the Municipalities of the Federal Distri

Assessed value of Property. (1) ***

	1876	1903
Value of rural property of the Federal District ..... $	5,754,178.21	33,529,293.17
Value of the city property of the City of Mexico and the Federal District	48,945,456.44	168,427,976.64
Rural property of the Republic	139,830,292.81	503,258,640.33
Town „	88,767,391.17	465,873,167.19

Postal Service. ***

(See details page No. 15).

Number of post offices	820	2,301
Number of employees	1,183	10,477
Interior first and second class mail	5,992,611	121,138,573
Foreign first and second class mail	236.572	13,353,368
Interior parcel post service	0	251,556
Foreign „ „ „	0	37,112
Money orders issued on the Interior	0	920,824
Value of inland money orders	0	$ 41,811,848.83
Money orders issued on the United States	0	14,958
Value of money orders issued on the United States	0	$ 479,196.38

(1) The commercial value of city and country properties mustbe estimated three times as high as the declared fiscal value, because, *as a general rule, the real value* is concealed from government.

	1876	1903
Number of money orders received from the United States	0	9,589
Amount paid on U. S. Money orders	0	$ 40,699.18
Postal Revenues	$ 562,490.95	$ 2,714,942.54

Telegraph Service, etc. ***

(See Page 16).

Number of Federal Government offices	109	419
Number of employees	1,183	10,477
„ of wireless telegraph stations	0	2
Distance between wireless telegraph stations in kilometres	0	160
Kilometres of Overhead wires—Federal Government	7,136	50,324
„ „ „ „ —States	1,310	5,312
„ „ „ „ —Private	1,205	3,113
„ „ sub-fluvial cables Federal Government	0	7
„ „ of under ground cables	0	5
„ „ „ sub-marine cable	0	735
„ „ „ telephone wire—Federal Government	0	2,139
„ „ „ „ wires, States		16,142
„ „ „ „ „ Private	10	22,813 (1)

(1) The above figures are the exact ones, while those stated on page 16 were given by mistake.

	1876	1903
Number of messages transmitted to the interior over Federal Telegraphs	40,203	3,176,566
Number of messages transmitted abroad over Federal Telegraphs	0	85,821
„ „ „ received from abroad	0	74,398
„ „ telegraph money orders issued on the interior	0	61,410
„ „ „ „ „ „ for abroad (U. S. A.)		
„ „ „ „ „ received from abroad (U. S. A.)		
Value of telegraph orders issued on the interior	0	3,160,419.18
„ „ „ „ „ foreign (U. S. A.)	0	479,196.38
„ „ foreign orders paid, (U. S. A.)	0	450,699.08
Receipts from Federal Telegraph Service	93,342.45	1,508,748.01
Total expenses of Federal Government for Telegraphs and Cables, not including instruments and office furniture	*	$ 5,040,076.00

Railroads, etc. ***

(See page 17). (1)

Number of railroads in operation	6	87
„ „ kilometres constructed	567	16,285
„ „ stations erected	296	1,606

(1) See appendix.

	1876	1903
Number of passengers transported	4,281,327	50,343,744
„ „ tons transported	133,000	6,668,499
Kilometres of Electric tramways	0	265
„ „ Animal traction tramways	470	2,855
Number of passengers transported on tramways	*	38,452,675
„ „ tons transported on tramways	*	25,973
Gross railroad receipts	$ 2,564,870.63	$ 70,203,002.30
Gross tramway receipts	*	2,799,509.84
Federal Subsidies to Railroads	$ 5,151,905.43	$ 144,891,743.92

Wagon Roads.***

Total number of kilometres constructed	*	9,000
Cost to Federal Government	*	$ 1,793.990.50

Banking Institutions. ***

(See page 21).

Number of Banking Institutions of all kinds	1	32
Share capital	$ 500,000.00	$ 100,150,000.00
Coin on hand	*	58,016,168.02
Reserve funds	*	15,352,466.25

	1876	1903
Precautionary funds	*	4,488,554.02
Value of Note circulation	*	88,033,539.75
Total turnover for the year	*	381,562,675.06
National Public Debt. ***		
(See page 22).		
Debt payable in gold	$ 71,111,500.00	$ 138,838,900.00
„ „ „ silver	43,427,712.80	143,116,950.00
State Debts. ***		
Debts payable in gold	0	$ 3,637,000.00
„ „ „ silver	$ 1,556,501.54	3,309,831.34
Municipal Debts. ***		
Debts payable in gold	$ 551.80	$ 1,103.80
„ „ „ silver	267,990.82	1,406,748.78
International Trade. ***		
(See page 26).		
Value of imports in gold	$ 18,793,493.61	$ 75,904,807.58
„ „ exports declared in silver	27,318,188.10	207,377,793.17

International Navigation.***

(See page 38)

Textile & Manufacturing Industries.**

(See page 41)

Army and Navy. ***

(See page 44).

	1876	1903
Number of steamships on the Gulf	2	6
„ „ steamships on the Pacific	2	2
„ „ soldiers in actual service	37,468	28,179

Public Education.

(See page 48).

Number of Official Schools	5,567	11,590
„ „ Professors of both sexes	5,658	16,983
„ „ pupils „ „ „	192,837	764,353
National Expenditure on Education	$ 2,049,045.56	$ 9,060,325.5

Patents and Trade Marks.*** (1)	1876	1903
Number of Patents issued for all kinds of Inventions	1	716
Number of Trade Marks Registered	*	2,872

Electric Plants.***		
Cities lighted by electricity	0	96
Electric Plants for industrial purposes	0	241

Meteorological Stations, etc.***		
Number of Astronomical Observatories in service	1	34
Number of Astronomical Observatories in construction	0	8
Number of Meteorological Stations in service	2	17
Number of Meteorological Stations in construction	0	34
Number of Thermo-Pluviometrical stations in service	0	132
Number of Thermo-Pluviometrical stations in construction	0	195
Cost of erection of the above to the Federal Treasury	*	$ 125,000.00

Lighthouses, etc.***		
Number of Lighthouses in service	3	30
" " " in construction	0	2

In 1876 the Register Office for Patents & Trade marks was not yet in existence.

	1876	1903
Number of Port Ligths in service	1	16
„ „ Channel buoys in service	0	15
„ „ Shoal buoys in service	0	27
Cost of above works to the Federal Treasury	*	$ 411,105.17

Harbour Works.***

Veracruz Harbour Works (completed)	*	$ 26,704,782.85
Drainage and sanitation of the City	„	2,676,357.64
Buildings, warehouses and wharves in the Port	„	2,683,329.68
Water Supply of City	„	1,503,651.45
Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz Harbour Works including Isthmus Railroad (incomplete)	„	57,587,098.30
Drainage and Sanitation of Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz	„	376,295.65
Federal Government buildings, wharves and warehouses, (spent up to date)	„	2,662,156.71
Tampico Harbour Works, (spent up to date)	„	2,160,000.00
Sanitation and Water Supply of City	„	1,281,617.16
Federal Government buildings, wharves and warehouses, (spent up to date)	„	4,436,142.25
Tuxpan Bar and re-building of wharf	„	28,000.00
Manzanillo Harbour Works, (spent up to date)	„	3,628,762.42
Carmen Island, Customs Wharf	„	130,000.00
San Juan Bautista. Iron Wharf	„	70,501.03
Three wooden wharves	„	
Two warehouses	„	

	1876	1903
La Paz. Repairs to Government wharves	„	7,776.66
Mazatlan. Retaining wall at Olas Altas	„	132,218.52
Surveys for Harbour Improvement	„	14,891.74
Repairs to Government wharves	„	1,200.00
Cleaning harbour entrance	„	1,513.82
Cuchiate. Surveys for Harbour Improvements	„	9,819.00
Altata. Surveys and Harbour Works	„	81,537.07
Lands acquired by Federal Government in Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz	„	43,263.64
Defense Works on the right bank of the Panuco River and new canal to the Tamesi river	„	135,683.00
Stationary dock in Guaymas (Pacific Coast)	„	145,000.00
Floating dock in Veracruz (Atlantic coast)	„	436,000.00

Diplomatic and Consular Corps.***

Mexican Ambassadors (in U. S. A.)	0	
Ambassadors in Mexico [from U. S. A.]	0	
Mexican Ministers abroad	6	
Foreign Ministers resident in Mexico	0	
Mexican Consuls and Vice-Consuls abroad	46	
Consuls and Vice-Consuls residing in Mexico	44	
Agents abroad	5	
	23	
	$ 111,800.00	$ 505.60

Foreign residents in Mexico. ***

(Census of 1900).	1876	1903
Foreigners of all nationalities	*	57,265
North Americans	,,	15,265
English	,,	2,845
Germans	,,	1,980
French	,,	3,976
Spanish	,,	16,250
Italians	,,	2,564
Belgians	,,	130
Danes	,,	88
Portuguese	,,	59
Austrians	,,	234
Russians	,,	61
Japanese	,,	41
Chinese	,,	2,834
South Americans	,,	420
Centro-Americans	,,	5,912
Cubans	,,	2,721
Other Nationalities	,,	2,127

Foreign Colonies.***

Number of Agricultural Colonies established in the country	1	24
From the United States [Mormons]	0	

	1876
From Germany	0
From Italy	0
From France	1
From England	0
Guatemala	0
Boers	0

Foreign Capital.** (1)

(APPROXIMATE ESTIMATE.)

Agricultural, mining industrial and financial etc. enterprises	*	$ 136.107,9
Insurance companies	„	16.888,4
Railroad enterprises	„	767.151,8
Public Debt	,	432,516,5
Total		$ 1.352,664,8

Periodicals.***

Periodicals published in Spanish	71
„ „ English	

(1) Monetary...

		1876		1903
Periodicals published in French				2
„ „	German			1
„ „	Italian			2
„ „	English and Spanish			4

Scientific and Literary Associations. ***

Public Libraries		*	124
Volumes contained		„	665,110
Scientific Associations		„	39
Literary Associations		„	5
Museums of all kinds		„	37

Public Health. ***

(FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.)

Staff of the Supreme Board of Health and employees	13	30
Physicians, agents, etc. in the sanitary inspections, laboratories, disinfection service on the frontiers and ports	6	315
Persons vaccinated in the City of Mexico and Federal District against Small Pox	4,877	35,430
Tubes of vaccine lymph distributed in the country (1)	*	5,273

(1) There are no data.

	1876	1903
Sanitary inspection of houses in the City of Mexico	0	31,04
Dwellings disinfected in same city	0	6,969
Disinfection of clothing, furniture, etc	0	38,685
Chemical Laboratory (considered a model)	0	1
Bacteriological Laboratory (do)	0	1
Anti-Rabic Institute (do)	0	1
Analysis of food substances (2)	*	10,000
Preventive inoculations against hydrophobia from 1888 up to 1903	0	5,210
Examinations of persons suspected of tuberculosis, diptheria, malaria and typhoid fever	0	257
Number of communications despatched by Board of Health	800	6,487
Number of telegrams despatched by Board of Health	*	3,189
Appropriations for expenses, salaries, etc	$ 5,420,00	$ 350,055.35

Yellow Fever. ***

	1876.	1903.
Registered cases in 1903	*	3,918
Deaths in the same year	,,	1,736
Registered cases in 1904 (from January to October	,,	474
Deaths in the same period	,,	148

(2) There are no data

	1876	1903
Physicians, Sanitary Agents and personnel employed by the Board for extinction of fever	„	265
Expenses incurred by the Federal Government	„	$ 140,000

NOTE.—The lymph for small pox, the preventive inoculations for hydrophobia and the microscopic examinations of tuberculosis, diphtheria, malaria, and typhoid fever, are gratis.

* * *

The progress of Mexico is so intimately related to the man who has ruled this country since 1876 that we cannot speak of this progress without uniting his name with its headway, for he has been its soul and brain, that have placed the country upon the path it treads today; watched with the greatest admiration by the entire world, and, owing to this fact we would not feel justified to close these statistics without granting a few lines to this great man.

His undertaking is one of those that are called to survive through centuries, and be left as a legacy to posterity.

He has stirred from its innermost bases the existence of a human crowd, showing a new road to the destinies, he has faced the old economical misconceptions, substituting them by the most advanced ideas of modern science, thus throwing his country in a new era of prosperity never attained before even in the history of the older nations: he has brought about a social revolution, crushing the warlike spirit and eagerness for agitation that ruled the masses for more than half a century: he has formed one great family with all the disturbing elements that divided into political parties raged against each others with implacable hatred and civil wars. He has infused into the souls of the masses the love of order and the respect of the property and lives of their fellow-men, he has

succeeded in obtaining obedience to the lawful authorities through the laws existing, thus benefiting his people with the noblest and truest of all liberties, as, wherever order and the law do not prevail the individual liberty is an utopia.

His government is not of a military character, but a civil one, which has destroyed the militarism, so uncongenial with a democratical form of Government represented by the masses and with the utmost prudence he has allowed to the people the use of their rights, indicating thus by all his actions that his object is to place the ruling of the country in the hands of a Civil Administration under the suzerainty of the Law.

It is a glorious achievement of an equally glorious undertaking, brought to a prosperous end by the indomitable energy of a man fit under all circumstances to occupy the most elevated offices of a great and true reformer.

The last amendment introduced in the Constitution of the country has been of a most salutary and peace-bearing effect upon all the citizens, as it is the completion of one of their most cherished aspirations, the election of a Vice-President.

This innovation closes forever the way to all personal or individual ambitions, as the ruling of the country will be passed over pacifically and legally to the party elected in case of a fortuitous demise of the President or his withdrawal from power for some cause or another.

In case of such an event, no human consideration would be powerful enough to divert the people from their path, as they realize that they are going forward with firm step, to the enlargement and honor of their country.

The elections that took place last July for the nomination of a President and Vice-President during the coming constitutional period, ampliated to 6 years by a recent amendment in the political constitution of the country; gave as a result the designation for those high posts of General Porfirio Diaz as President of the Republic, his candidature owing to the high prestige he has won amongst his fellow-men having met with not even a single vote of opposition; and for Vice-President, Mr. Ramon Corral actual Secretary of State in President Diaz' cabinet.

Formed at the school of President Diaz, the great trainer and educator of true citizens, Mr. Corral is yet a young man, of clear and righteous ideas, splendidly endowed for all great enterprises owing to his unwonted boldness, besides being to the soul a progressist for the good of his country.

If he ascends to the Presidency it will not be to agitate in politics, but to devote all his energies to continue the great undertaking of his predecessor, who has resumed in this famous phrase a whole program of sage administration: "Less politics and more administration."

No man is apter to develop this program than the Vice-President elect.—"Work and Progress" are the mottoes of President Diaz, and Mr. Corral will follow in his steps continuing the form of government inaugurated by President Diaz, answering so fully to the wants of the country, and so cherished by all.

The progress of the country receives a new and vigorous impulse with Mr. Corral at the head of the Government, and all the parties devoted to enterprising and business will be more than glad to see him at the head of the destinies of Mexico, in case of being compelled to lament the demise of General Diaz, which would be, indeed, a national calamity; but, as he himself stated, as an echo of the nation's sentiments, it is to hope that the good fairy that protects the Mexican Nation shall guard President Diaz' life so as to allow him to perfect his undertaking and see its glorious achievement.

*
* *

Who is the Vice President elect?

His public life was commenced in the ranks of the press, where he courageously defended the principles of reason and justice. His progressive ideas and his love for everything noble and elevated, gained for him great popularity amongst the citizens of his section who elected him Deputy to the Legislature of the State of Sonora, his native land. Later on he was elected Deputy to the

Federal Congress and in 1887 the public vote raised him to the office of Lieutenant Governor of the State, and in this political carreer he has many years exercised a preponderating and effective influence.

When his term as Lieutenant Governor expired he took the position of General Secretary of the State of Sonora till 1895, when he was elected Constitutional Governor and filled that high office for four years.

On the 15th of December, 1900, Corral was called by the Government of the Union to take charge of the Government of the Federal District. and on the 19th of January, 1903, he assumed the portefolio of the Interior in the Cabinet of President Diaz, an office that he has filled with the tact, intelligence and energy that he has always shown since the commencement of his public career.

His government of Sonora was distinguished by a spirit of energetic initiative, which he showed by his encouragement of a large number of agricultural, industrial and mining enterprises in which an immense capital was invested, and that now constitute important sources of wealth in that important state. He is a man of firm and steadfast character, a passionate lover of progress and goes with the ideas of the present century, whilst his only thought is the agrandizement of his country. He is a warm friend of President Diaz, whose political program he loyally supports with the strength of conviction. Hesitation and fear are unknown to him, and his action is always prompt and to the point.

As a private citizen, he has been an enterprising and able business man, so that in a comparatively short time he has acquired a considerable private fortune and is now one of the principal factors in the industry and trade of the State of Sonora. Gentle as well as frank in his manner, he knows how to attract the good will of all and make friends of all who have dealings with him.

Mr. Corral is a Republican without being an intransigent, he is zealous in the exercise of his authority without falling into despotism that turns into public scourages the chance politicians, the shameless perjurers whose conscience fails to remind them of the high honors their fellow-citizens conferred on them in an evil hour. He knows, being a sincere democrat, that the respect of the individual rights is the solemn vow demanded by the Republic from the men raised by public choice

to the height of the Government platform, and in whose hands are placed under a sacred oath the holy trust of the laws and the inalienable liberties of the citizens.

The officious politicians, the bold agitators of yesterday have no more access to public offices, nor in the management of the Government's dealings in the Republic of Mexico.

If the masses are not yet thoroughly educated in the democratical principles, nevertheless, the higher classes, the prominent men represented in all countries by the merchants, the manufacturers, the farmers, the banks, the railroad-men and in general by all business men without distinction of opinions or party; which really speaking do not exist any more, all these men united by the bonds of a sincere patriotism have taken unto themselves to represent the people, and, addicted by their own education and the protection of their interests to the conservation of peace and order, so that the Republic might as heretofore continue to accomplish its duties as well in the exterior as in the interior, these men are a help instead of a hindrance, a power and not an agitating element, a lever that gives strength and holds the actual Government as it will hold the subsequent ones that the Nation may have, because the number of these men increases daily, together with the progress made by the country, at the same time that the welfare of the people extends, and that the capitals congregate and consolidate together. Today the educated classes taking part directly in the popular meetings and public affairs are the small minority, later they will represent the largest majority, the masses assuming their own rights and imposing their almighty wills.

That hour is nearing with giant strides, it is nearly arrived.

When a nation desires to be great, and possesses the required civic qualities to attain such an end, it always reaches it. No obstacles are taken in account nor tolerated. It wishes and goes ahead. Mexico has acted thus, hardly fifty years ago, while sustaining its titanic wars of reform, when, led by the great Juarez, the founder of the Republic and the democracy it had to make away with three centuries of fanatism in order to provide itself with the institutions forming today its political creed. In the heart of each Mexican there is an altar erected to the immortal memory of the deliverer, of the stainless patriot, and the model citizen.

Such is the spirit pre-dominating in the souls of the men of high ideas that today surround the Government in Mexico, at the present times when once for all its destinies are asserted in the New World, and between those men anxious of progress, of prestige, of grandeur and glory for their country, Vice-President elect Ramon Corral has stepped foremost.

When he rises to the first power of the land it will be inspired by the patriotic and conciliatory politic of President Diaz.

Tolerance as a principle, progress as an end seem to have been the secret, the magic key to the grand undertaking achieved by this really exceptional man. His genious showed him in this key the only possible mode to end the familial feuds, the political intrigues, and the loosened passions that were arming the hands with fratricidal daggers; compared to a clairvoyant he saw that the union, the forgetfulness of the past, and the reconciliation of all the parties that were raging against each other a war without quarter would be the terminations of all the revolutions and disturbances and the beginning of a new ere for his country; with the scrutinizing sight of the eagle he discovered from the infinite heights where the geniuses soar, that it was the desideratum, the salvation of the Republic, and drowning passions, repressing impulses, checking hatreds appeasing animosities, using at times energetic means and at others an amicable conciliation, straining all his authority and prestige to make his fellow-citizen listen to reason, he finally succeeded in bringing harmony between the parties, and infused in the hearts of his co-citizens sane ideas of humanity, morality and justice.

Orator of peace, of harmony and tolerance, he himself as a true apostle of the doctrine he preaches gives the example, forgiving in the name of the Republic, magnanimous and generous, to his enemies of the past, to his political adversaries, calling at the same time to his side all the good men, no matter to what party or creed they belong, because he realized that there are worthy and honest men in all human crowds, and by this action he was able to crush the head of the accursed hydra of discord, to establish the peace, and to erect upon solid bases the foundations of a great nation, he was thus able to unite in one great family the fifteen millions of beings that compose the

great Mexican Republic. It is a most humane and noble undertaking, worthy to be made eternal in splendid monuments of bronze and marble.

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* *

If, at the beginning of his administration, 28 years ago, he was compelled to act at times as a dictator, it was when in order to bring to order all the disturbing elements. The most energetic means had to be employed, when he had to repress with an iron hand the revolutions and banditism; when he had to establish the peace, in order to rule his people according to the mandates of the law, the only means to insure the security and the liberty of a nation. This was the only manner to bring to the country the progress needed. Once the results obtained, his administration has been light and paternal, and he has conquered the esteem and love of his country men to such an extent that today he could rule over the country without the help of a single soldier to enforce the laws or repress by an energetic action disturbances that do not exist any more. He in fact lives for his people as his people lives through him, and he is devoting the last years of his existence to give them happiness and prosperity.

All and any citizens, no matter to what social class they may belong are inconditionally devotes of General Diaz. Never has a man been identified closer with its ruler than the Mexican people with their actual President. The ideal and popular form of government, the people ruled by the people, is practically established in Mexico. It is a most beautiful tuition for the rising countries who spend all their energies in the realization of this beauteous ideal! A disinterested love for one's country, and a religious devotion to the rights of justice are all that is needed to rule a nation and gain the good will of the people.

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* *

It is the attribution of all geniuses to stamp upon their generation and the age in which they live, their virtues, and their doings; and their examples prevail in a most decisive manner upon the destinies of the people they are called to rule. It is a truth that has been sanctioned since humanity exists, and once more this truth has been confirmed by the social-economic evolution that has taken place in the country, and whose rapid progress we have related in brief sketches.

President Diaz is one of those characters. His personality is embodied in the young generation, raised and educated in his principles of high morality and elevated patriotism. A model of civil virtues and of unstained private conduct, man of great action, endowed with an extraordinary energy mitigated by a great prudence, of an elevated righteousnous of mind, a simple and modest democrat, an unwearied worker, addicted to his duty, his life and doings are a powerful stimulant for the rising generation following his doctrines that will enable her in turn to pilot, as he has done and with equal success, the destinies of the country.

Loved and respected by all social classes, all, the native sons of the soil as well as the foreigners, see in him, not only the worthy Head of the Government, but also the benevolent protector of their interests, their honor and their lives.

This gives to understand how he has been able to rule his country for 25 years, and be again applauded and reelected for the sixth time by his fellow-citizens, to continue his work; so as to perfect his undertaking and leave it as strong as the rock that resists the beating of the ocean's waves His nature made as of cast iron and tempered so as to allow him to fulfill all the duties, Patriotism Humanity and Civilization may impose upon him, does not fail: he remains at his post, serene, erect his hand tightened on the rudder of the ship he has so miraculously saved from the revolutionary hurricanes to pilot it later on through easy seas to the covetend port of glory and prosperity.

*
* *

We are arriving at the end of this laborious work tending to demonstrate with mathematical precision resulting from numbers, the progress attained by Mexico during the comparative time expressed in these notes. The Mexico of yesterday has transformed itself like the mythological Phoenix, growing again from its own ashes, and springing today in all its strength side by side with the other nations of the old and new worlds, full of fame and decided to contend as a worthy athlete for the glorious conquests undertaken by the civilized nations in order to attain the summit of their greatness.

A new case, worthy of study is offered to the sociologists, the great thinkers, the politicians and the statesmen.

What has become of the ungovernable and revolutionist country of yesterday? Upon the same lands hollowed by the horses' feet, who like a sweeping whirlwind carried away the newly sown fields, spreading death and desolation upon their passage, green fields of growing harvests extend themselves like an emerald carpet, their color representing the hope of a rising nation. The farmer sows in those same furrows that were opened by the heavy wheels of the cannons vomiting death and mowing down limbs of humane beings the seed that will grow into a luxurious harvest, the deserted homes in which the widow was mourning the absence of a beloved husband torn from her arms and the loss of a cherished son taken from her bosom by the revolutionary waves, shines a rising sun of great splendour in a cloudless heaven, and in its rays is felt the warmth that brings joy to the heart, songs and laughters are heard, showing that the hearts are gay and satisfied.

There are no more fears, no more dreads, nor mourning in the breasts of those people, the husband is there, the son has returned, the soil cultivated, the cattle grazing securely and peacefully, the granary is filled, and peace and tranquility reign in the hamlet of the poor workman as well as

in the mansion of the rich. The smoke of the battlefields has changed to incense pouring forth f the high furnaces of the manufactures, the warlike blowing of the bugles that throwed against others brothers filled with fratricidal hate has turned silent, and in its stead vibrates the whistle o engines calling to their daily labour the workmen, to pay their tribute to the holy temples of hu nitary work, animated by the divine spirit.

In the meantime, sowing in the rustic cabin of the poor as well as in the opulent mansion o rich the prolific tuition of science and righteous good that will educate the future rulers o country, this mighty man passes, following his path of salvation. The new generation born amo the harmonious hymns sung to progress and civilization will be the heirs to this inheritance, to l it as a sacred deposit to pass, enlarged and glorified to the posterity.

Mexico, October 1904.

Bernardo Mallén.

APPENDIX.

The Mexican Government has acquired the control of the following lines:

National Railroad of Mexico.
Interoceanic.
Mexican International.
Tehuantepec National R. R.
Vera Cruz & Pacific.

As regards the last line, the Government purchased the whole of the shares for $6,000,000 gold
d in Treasury Bonds, and also paying $1,000,000 silver for repairs which were urgently required,
nevertheless leaving the road for a certain period under the management of the construction
npany.

The total length of lines on which the Government exercises a direct intervention is 5,500 ki-
netres.

In spite of the fact that as a general thing the railroad companies have as yet derived no pro-
from the lines in operation, they are being extended and new lines are under construction in dif-
ent parts of the country. Confidence is felt in the future and this confidence keeps up the spirit of
erprise, as regards both railroads, and all other branches of Mexican business.